



WINNER'S MINUTE

With Mac Hammond

365-DAY DEVOTIONAL



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Winner's Minute 365-Day Devotional

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For nearly twenty years, my family and I have had the privilege of attending Living Word Christian Center. It's been an honor studying under Mac Hammond. Pastor Mac Hammond has always been a visionary leader who seeks new and creative ways to influence people and expand the kingdom of God. When the idea for the Winner's Minute was introduced, my wife and I were truly inspired. *The Winner's Minute* has been able to introduce principles that help people live in victory on a daily basis. I understand the power of these principles as my family and I have benefited greatly from them. The advancements we have experienced personally by his lessons have materialized in our spiritual growth, self-image, relationship growth, and the profitability of our traditional business.

This devotional will take these principles and help them come alive for you as well. Life circumstances will always be changing, but principles that come from the inherent Word of God will never change and can never be stopped. If you have a desire for a deeper relationship with Jesus, as well as a desire to also know the principles of the Kingdom of God, this devotional is your answer.

Matt Grotewald | Leadership Speaker

JANUARY

Image • Rob Schrader



1

Write Down Your Vision

Around 600 B.C., the Hebrew prophet Habakkuk wrote down some advice that could be the key to making this year the best year you've ever had. The prophet wrote an important mandate, inspired by God Himself: "Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets, that the one who reads it may run." He's talking about writing down your goals so you will know the direction in which to run. It was God, not the motivational gurus, who came up with the idea of goal setting as a key to success. Let God give you a vision for the year, write it down, and then go for it.

**Do you have the courage to take
Habakkuk's advice?**

And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. (Habakkuk 2:2 KJV)

January

2 Dream Big

Vince Lombardi once stated, “Life’s battles don’t always go to the stronger or faster man. But sooner or later, the man who wins is the man who thinks he can.” We very often place limitations on ourselves. We know our strengths and weaknesses better than anyone else, and we often live our lives accordingly. But I have news for you today. God has a purpose and plan for you that will blow your mind. The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 2:9 that “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” I encourage you to dream big because you can’t “out dream” God.

Have you allowed God to paint a bold dream on the canvas of your heart?

Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]— (Ephesians 3:20 Amp.)

3 Count the Cost

It's a good thing to have a goal. It's even better if you have a powerful inner drive to achieve it. Without a workable plan, your goal and passion will benefit you very little. Many people are so busy coping with the urgent demands of the present that they tend to let the future take care of itself. We can be so busy putting out fires that we fail to do the planning that would prevent those fires in the first place. In the New Testament, Jesus strongly encourages planning and “counting the cost” when it comes to launching a new venture.

**Do you have a credible plan
for achieving your goals?**

For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. (Luke 14:28–30 KJV)

January

4 Create Effective Goals

Many people make an effort at setting goals, but few do it effectively. According to the Bible, there are some principles that make your goal setting a powerful tool for achievement. Effective goal setters are willing to discipline themselves, work hard, and sacrifice for delayed gratification. They believe in their God-given gifts and calling. They stay motivated. They form a plan of action, and they have a clear vision of where they're going. I like what a famous German theologian said about goals: "Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it; boldness has genius and power in it."

Have you harnessed the genius
and power of lofty goals?

Wise people think before they act; fools don't—and even brag about their foolishness. (Proverbs 13:16 NLT)

5 Dare to Begin

The reason most plans never succeed—and the reason most goals are never achieved—is because that crucial first step was never taken. Business pioneer Charles Schwab once wrote, “The difference between getting somewhere and nowhere is the courage to make an early start. The fellow who sits still and does just what he is told will never be told to do big things.” Likewise, the book of Proverbs repeatedly warns against being like the slothful man who always finds a good excuse for putting off an endeavor. Such a person never achieves great things.

**Is there something you've been
putting off that needs to be started?**

Despite their desires, the lazy will come to ruin, for their hands refuse to work.

(Proverbs 21:25 NLT)

January

6 Three Elements of Lasting Change

Do you want to make a lasting change in your behavior? You can if you know the secret of the threefold cord. Behavior has three elements: thoughts, words, and actions. To effect lasting change, you must deal with all three. Changing one element will weaken a bad habit. Changing two will break it. Changing all three will replace the old habit with a new one. Ecclesiastes tells us a threefold cord is not easily broken. So start with the area that's the simplest for you to alter. In some cases that may be your thoughts; in others, it may be your words or actions. No matter where you begin, tackle each element one at a time until you've established that threefold cord. It's a vital step toward starting the New Year with increased self-control.

Are you willing to pursue lasting change in your life?

And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken. (Ecclesiastes 4:12 KJV)

7

Effective Communication

If you want to increase in influence, you're going to have to become a more effective communicator. One true mark of a skilled communicator is knowing what to say, when to say it, and how it should be said. God and His Word are the best resources in the world for developing that level of communication excellence. As your skill in communicating increases, so does your influence on the people you love and those with whom you work. This enables you to impart direction and motivation to your children, your spouse, your coworkers, and your neighbors. I encourage you to ask God to show you how to communicate more effectively.

Do you communicate effectively?

There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health. (Proverbs 12:18 KJV)